GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3390
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2005
LAUNCHING OF INTERNET PROTOCOL TELEVISION
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the leading telecom players are planning to roll out the latest broadband technology-IP-TV (Internet Protocol Television);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be launched;

(d) whether the facility shall also be available to MTNL subscribers;

(e) if so, the guidelines thereof;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the benefits likely to be derived to TV viewers both in urban and rural areas as a result of this facility?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) to (f): Internet Protocol - Television (IP-TV) is a new technology and various Telecom licensees are reportedly evaluating this technology for its commercial usage. The roll out of any new technology, including IP-TV, is expected to be deployed by Telecom Service Providers, including BSNL and MTNL, after ascertaining the feasibility and viability of the technology in Indian market and after meeting the licensing and regulatory requirements.

(g) TV viewers in urban and rural areas are expected to have the following benefits through this service:

(i) More economical packages comprising of broadband internet access and TV services.

(ii) Better quality

(iii) Flexibility to watch programmes at the convenient timings.

(iv) Single Bill to the customers for his communication and entertainment needs.